



## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Series Theme: Stories of Jesus  
Text for the Week: Luke 16:19-31  
Message for the Week: A Compassionate Community

Week One  
Sunday June 12

### Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

Who is the best storyteller in your family?

### Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

### Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Luke 16:19-31](#) out loud.

[Clicking this link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, take note of, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

## **Respond / Reflect:**

What false narratives are prevalent in our world today? In the/our church?

How would you define compassion? What does compassion look like? What does compassion involve?

Who has demonstrated compassion toward you? When was the last time you were compassionate?

Are we/you hoarding or sharing the gifts that God has given to us/you?

What kind of things do we look to for salvation besides Jesus?

How are we like the rich man? How are we like Lazarus?

How is this a reassuring story? How is this a scary story?

## **“Try It!”**

Extend compassion to someone this week. Look for the “Lazarus” in others. Pay attention to what effect it had on the person and on you.

## **Prayer:**

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Pray this prayer together:

*Father, thank you for Jesus who was willing to give up his place in heaven, and take on the form of a human being to experience all the pain and suffering of hell – for our sake – so that we might be welcome in your heaven.  
Father, we are beggars, who are desperately in need of your bread - your love, your grace, your compassion, and your care.  
Thank you for hearing our prayers and attending to our soul.  
Father, open our eyes and our ears to the plight of the world around us who are desperately in need of the living bread.  
May we use what you have entrusted to us for the building of your Kingdom.  
In the name of Jesus our Teacher and Rabbi, Amen.*

## **Missional/Spiritual Practice for the Month: Eating and Drinking with Others**

During the month of June, you are encouraged to eat and drink with people that you don’t know very well (Luke 10). It could be a neighbor, a classmate, or co-worker. Take advantage of National Doughnut Day on June 3 or international picnic day on June 18. Have a neighborhood popsicle or ice cream day in your neighborhood. Eat at the restaurant that is closest to your house and be open to meeting and greeting new people while you are eating there. Experiment with different ways to eat and drink with new people.